Preliminary Amendment and Response to Election of Species Requirement US Appln. 09/985,921

Atty. Docket: Q67064

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested. New claims 47 and 48 have been added to further define the invention.

Election of Species Requirement

In response to the Examiner's election of species requirement as mailed on February 3, 2003, Applicants elect without traverse the species of Figs. 27 A and B. Claims 1-17, 47, and 48, are readable on the elected species.

Extension of Time

Because no shortened statutory period for response was set in the February 3 Office Action, the period for response extends to August 3, 2003 without any payment for extension of time being necessary. Accordingly, this paper is timely filed.

Conclusion

An early and favorable action on the merits is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 47 and 48 have been added as new claims.